



M
P
C
Bulletin

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FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE
MANITOBA POWER COMMISSION

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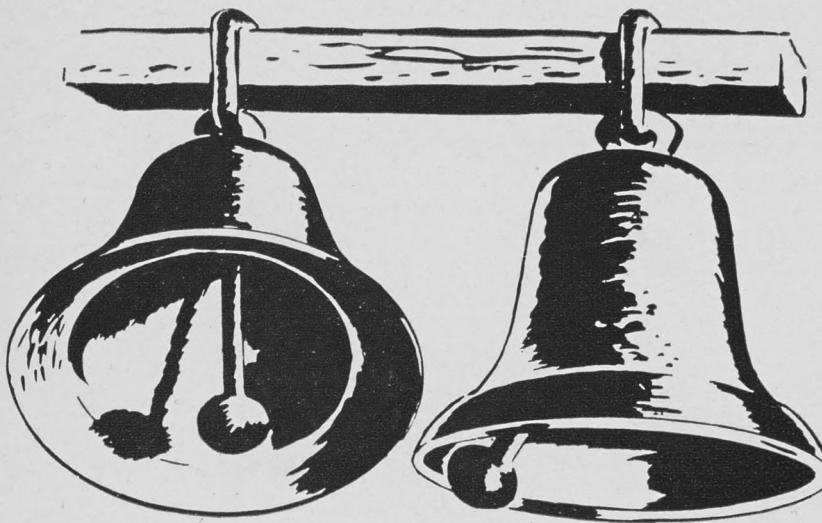
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Season's Greetings

I think one of the finest things about Christmas is the opportunity afforded me to wish each and every one of you the compliments of the season.

Christmas is the time each year when we pause in our work to think of old friends, past associations and the many good times that we have had together. It warms our hearts to reflect upon the fine fellows with whom we have had the opportunity of working. The courtesy, industry, loyalty and friendship of the staff are responsible for the very favourable position enjoyed by the Manitoba Power Commission today.

On behalf of the Management and myself, I wish to thank you for your fine endeavours during the past year. Since unfortunately, I cannot call on each of you personally, I am indeed grateful for the opportunity of extending Christmas greetings to you through the medium of the Bulletin.

Therefore, wherever you may be on Christmas Day, may I wish you and your family a very pleasant Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

W. D. Tallis

Combined Operations

CONSTRUCTION

1952 PROGRAMME . . .

Construction is progressing well ahead of last year's schedule, Lindsay Ferguson reports. By the end of October last year, the area programme was well advanced with some 2,049 farms energized. This year during the same period, 2,885 farms have been added to the system. This increase may be credited to the ready availability of labour and the unusually good weather that has allowed the crews to work practically non-stop all summer.

This year's supplementary programme is equally well advanced with 885 farms having been energized by the end of October.

CURRENT PROGRESS . . .

In addition to over 1,500 customers in the Swan River Valley, 131 new customers in the municipality of Rockwood were added to the system since the last Bulletin was published. The Rockwood area was completed by L. Reid and his crew.

R. SMILEY'S PROGRESS . . .

R. Smiley and his men have established something of a record this year. To date, they have completed 1,000 farms in the municipalities of Hanover, Woodlands, St. Clements, Brokenhead, Springfield, Bifrost, and Gimli. Nice going, fellows! That's an enviable record, indeed!

OPERATING

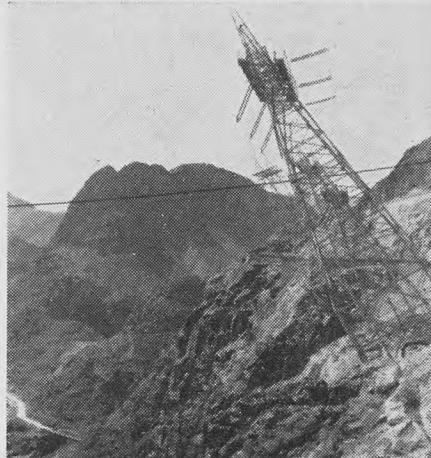
PURCHASES

"HUSKYSUMMOBILE"

Doug McKechnie advises that his department has purchased a new snowplane for use in the Swan River Valley. It won't be long before Laurence Madill is the custodian of a brand new "Husky-

mobile." These machines are powered by a 21 h.p. air-cooled motor and are equipped with skis on the front axle and tracks in the rear. A notable feature of the Huskymobile is that it is manufactured at Ste. Rose by the Smerch Motortoboggan Co. Snow drifts will be no obstacle to M.P.C. patrolmen at Swan River this winter.

VISITS HOOVER DAM . . .



While on holidays recently, Colin Hamilton of the engineering department visited Hoover Dam. While there, he took the above snap which shows the structures below the dam clinging on an angle to the very face of the cliff above the gorge. These structures are on the line which carries the power from the generating station to the switching yard. Colin was impressed with the immensity of the project.

ENGINEERING

PLANS FOR 1953 . . .

As in the late fall of every year, the planning for the next year's programme is in full swing in the engineering department.

Tom Woodhall and Bob Tivy

report that the 1953 programme under consideration and outlined below will likely be the largest yet embarked upon by the Manitoba Power Commission.

A 115 kv tie line between the terminals of Brandon and Neepawa is contemplated for the next year and it is planned to build an H frame 115 kv insulated line to Virden—this line will be initially operated at 33 kv. The conversion of line 40 from 33 to 66 kv operation will be completed from Elm Creek to Treherne, and the St. Norbert - Prairie Grove - Steinbach line loop will be completed for initial operation at 33 kv. It is planned to extend the 33 kv line from Somerset to Pilot Mound, from Eriksdale to Poplarfield, and to provide Stonewall with a 33 kv loop feed.

TERMINAL PROGRAMME . . .

The 1953 terminal programme under consideration includes the installation of the fifth 15,000 kva transformer and three 115 kv oil circuit breakers, at Parkdale, two of which will be used as line breakers on lines No. 6 and No. 7. Also being considered is the installation of a second 15,000 kva terminal bank and the establishment of a 115 kv switching ring consisting of three oil circuit breakers at Neepawa. Three 115 kv oil circuit breakers are to be installed as line breakers at the Brandon East terminal. New terminals containing 33 kv oil circuit breakers will be installed at Virden, Pilot Mound and Treherne while 33 kv oil circuit breakers will be added to the Brandon East and St. Norbert terminals.

SUBSTATION PROGRAMME . . .

Plans under consideration include new substations at Fraserwood, Ste. Anne, Sanford, and Sedden's Corner during the next year. Capacity increases are planned for the following 17 substations: Arborg, Elm Creek, Forrest, Gimli, Gladstone, Hol-

land, Manitou (farm), Minota, Morden, (farm) Moosehorn, Neepawa, Niverville, Poplarfield, Rivers (town), Russell (town), Shoal Lake (town), Stonewall and Treherne.

A NEW TYPE OF POLE PLATE . . .

A recent innovation for the M.P.C. is the introduction of a pole plate of sufficient size and strength to allow the mounting of transformers up to 75 kva directly on the pole. Pioneer Electric Co. collaborated with the Commission on this piece of equipment which was tested and proven satisfactory by Mr. A. Tallman of that organization and Bob Tivy and Jim Clark of this utility. Some of these units are being shipped on distribution transformers currently being supplied by Pioneer Electric.

ANOTHER FIRST . . .

Another first for this utility is the proposed installation of 115 kv air blast circuit breakers at the Brandon East terminal next year. These units, which are the first of this voltage rating to be installed in Manitoba are to be supplied by the Brown Boveri Co. Ltd. Mr. T. L. Woodhall recently visited their plant in Montreal where he reviewed details of design and observed the apparatus under test.

CONGRATULATIONS, GEORGE . . .

On behalf of the members of the staff, the Bulletin extends congratulations to George Edworthy who celebrated his 80th birthday on December 1. George was an employee of the Canada Gas and Electric Co. when the Commission took over. He remained with the Power Commission until his retirement in 1940. George still resides in Brandon.

Completes 25 Years' Service

On Oct. 1, Stan Sinclair of Glenboro joined that select group of employees who have completed 25 years' service with the M.P.C. In appreciation of this service, W. D. Fallis, General Manager, visited the Sinclairs to present Stan with a gift of luggage, and his wife, Bernice with a lovely bouquet of roses.

Stan first started with the M.P.C. at Roland in 1920 but resigned a year later to accept employment with the Calgary Light and Power Co. In 1927, he returned to Manitoba to resume his work with the Commission and was soon supervisor at Pilot Mound. Two years later, he moved to Glenboro where he has remained ever since. Stan's is rather a unique record—23 years serving the same district.

The Sinclairs have two sons. Bob, who is in the airforce, was able to be home on this important occasion. His brother, Don,



is still going to school in Glenboro.

Sports have always been important to Stan. He is an expert marksman and a loyal member of the curling club. Quite a few years ago, he was well known for his interest in harness racing. His horses came to be well known in the Glenboro - Wawanesa-

Pilot Mound district which has long been recognized as the centre of harness racing in Manitoba. At one time, he raised some of the horses, himself.

It is not often that a supervisor remains in the same district for 23 years. This very fact testifies to the mutual esteem in which the Sinclairs and Glenboro hold each other. Through the pages of the Bulletin, M.P.C. employees in the office and in the field are happy to extend warm congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Sinclair on their hydro anniversary.

Staff Changes

With Patty Glynn's resignation from his position in central file came the problem of finding his successor. Central File is responsible for the opening and delivering of all incoming mail in addition to filing the copies of the hundreds of letters that are despatched from the Commission daily. Naturally, an individual with competence and organizing ability was required to head this department. These qualities were seen in Ida McDonald and she got the job.

Formerly, Ida was with the stenographic department. Her

new duties will be taxing but knowing Ida, you realize central file remains in good hands.

With the addition of thousands of new customers in the northern part of the province, Art Wrighton, Business Manager, advises that it has been necessary to locate a representative of the department in that locality. Vic Barber was chosen for the job and will reside in Dauphin.

No doubt the move pleased Vic's wife. She is from Swan River and the transfer will enable her to visit her home frequently. The best of luck to you, Vic, in your new location.

“The Lineman”

They sings of the men as goes down to the sea;

Of the heroes of cannon and swords;
An' writes of the valor of dead chivalry,
An' the bravery of old knights 'n' lords.

They sighs 'cause the romance of knighthood is past,
'Cause there ain't no high ideals no more,
They says that this old world's a rollin' too fast
To develop that "esprit de corps."

But them as complains are the one as don't know,
Who sits where it's warm and then kick—
They ain't never seen a line saggin' with snow,
And had to get service back—quick!

They ain't never struggled with Death at their side,
A-snappin' and hissin' and pale,
Nor clung to the towers and grimly defied
The assaults of the blizzards and gale.

They sit and are served with never a thought
Of the fellers out pluggin' like hell
To supply at their touch the service they've bought
With a light, or the sound of a bell.

These fellers ain't togged out all shinin' in steel,
They don't ride around on no hoss,
They don't sing no songs about how they feel
In the gales when the feeders may cross.

They don't wave no banners embroidered in gold,
In Latin nobody can read,
They don't do no braggin' of deeds that were bold,
Their motto is "Service and Speed."

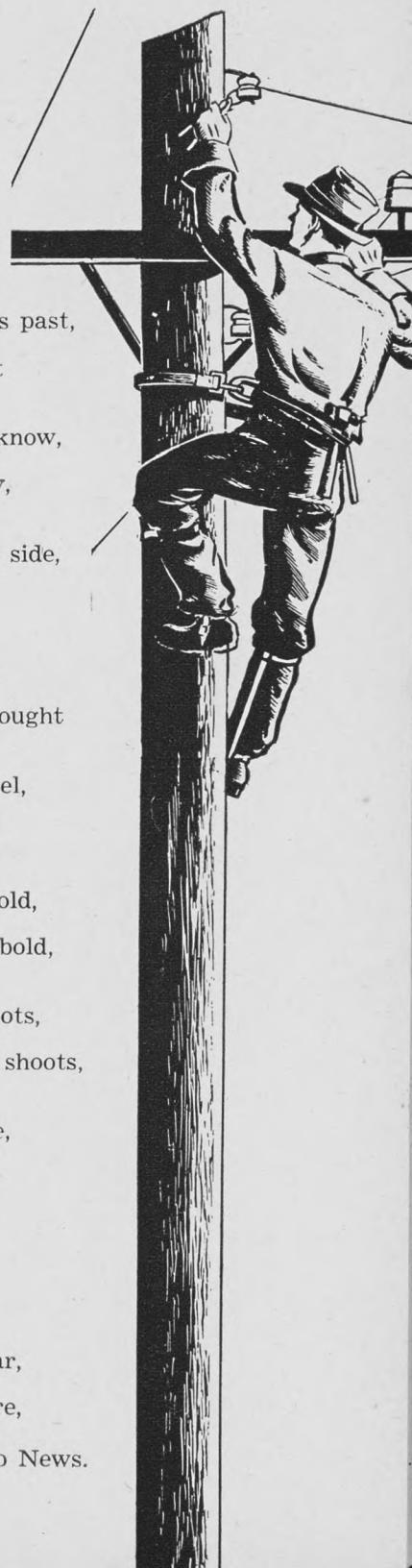
Their armour ain't nothin' but slickers and boots,
Their weapons are climbers and pliers,
Their battles are fought up where hi-tension shoots,
An' death lurks unseen on the wires.

They're fightin' the gales and blizzards an' ice,
Protectin' the towers and span,
With effort not measured in hours or price—
For one cause—just Service to man!

So here's to the Lineman—the Son-of-a-Gun
That can do without sleep for a week!
That sticks to the job 'til it's every bit done,
And the feeders can carry the peak.

For his is the Knighthood that's noblest by far,
That highest and mightiest clan,
That's fightin' the battles of Things-as-they-are,
In the cause of the Service of man.

—Reprinted from the Ontario Hydro News.





This is the conclusion of an article begun last month by M. P. Power, Personnel Officer, in which he explained the need for and operation of the M.P.C. pension plan. This month he presents some examples of this plan.

Your Retirement Income

To illustrate the pension plan, let us assume: Mr. A. appointed at 20½ years earning \$125.00 and progressing in salary rate to \$350.00 on normal retirement at 65½; and Mr. B. appointed at age 25 earning \$200.00 per month, progressing to a salary rate of \$300.00 at age 50 when he retires on a total and permanent disability pension. (Figures are given to nearest dollar.)

	Mr. A	Mr. B.
1. Appointment Age	20½	25
2. Retirement Age	65½	50
3. Length of Service (years)	45	25
4. Contributory Period (years)	40	25
5. Contribution Rate (%)	4½	5
6. Total Earnings Working for the Commission ...	\$156,050	\$83,200
7. Total Contributions (deducted from salary)....\$	6,032	\$ 4,160
8. Average Annual Salary (No. 6 ÷ No. 3) Mr. A.: \$156,050 ÷ 45	\$ 3,468	
Mr. B.: \$ 83,200 ÷ 25		\$ 3,328
9. Normal Annual Allowance (No. 8 × No. 4 ÷ 60) Mr. A.: \$3,468 × 40 ÷ 60	\$ 2,312	
Mr. B.: \$3,328 × 25 ÷ 60		\$ 1,387
10. Monthly Allowance (No. 9 ÷ 12) Mr. A.: \$2,312 ÷ 12	\$ 193	
Mr. B.: \$1,387 ÷ 12		\$ 116
11. Guaranteed Allowance (No. 10 — 9.4% of No. 10) Mr. A: \$193 — \$18.00	\$ 175	
12. Net Guarantee (10 years @ \$175 per month)....\$	21,000	

In the example given above, the pensioner who takes the normal allowance is sure of receiving \$193.00 per month as long as he lives with the proviso that his estate will get the balance of his contributions of \$6,032 if he has not drawn out that amount during his retirement. The pensioner drawing the guaranteed allowance receives \$175.00 per month for life with the proviso that if he does not live for ten years, payments will be made to his beneficiary for the balance of the ten year period, a net guarantee of \$21,000. If the pensioner should live to, say 95, he will receive from the fund in monthly installments of \$175.00 some \$62,000, more than ten times his investment.

What's Happened

VITAL STATISTICS . . .

BIRTHS



Born to Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Howes of Arborg, a daughter, Bonita Jean, on Sept. 25.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. R. Clearwater of Elie on the birth of their son, Glen Roland, on Oct. 11.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Anderson of Winnipeg are happy to announce the birth of a son, Ricky Kevin, on Oct. 27.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Tivy of Winnipeg became the proud parents of a daughter, Anna Maria, on Nov. 9.

ENGAGEMENTS



June Andrews of the operating department appeared at work one morning looking very starry-eyed and wearing a lovely diamond. Her future husband, Ron Wesley of the R.C.N. is currently stationed at Esquimalt.

WEDDINGS



Jeannine Tellier and E. Sibleau

of the Steinbach district were united in marriage on Oct. 4.

On Oct. 11, I. Law of the stores department was married to Florence Bond.

Nov. 14 was the occasion of the marriage of Joan Marsden of the machine room, to Alex Reid of Winnipeg.

East, West, Home's Best

About two years ago, Lois Zeigler of the machine room decided that she wanted a change, so packing her bag, she set sail for Australia.

There she was very pleased with what she found—the country was lovely; the climate, superb; and the people, extremely easy-going. She did note, however, that Australia's supply of electricity left a good deal to be desired. A dinner begun by electric lights was often completed by candlelight.

She had little trouble finding a job. Her training with I.B.M. machines enabled her to find a position with the I.B.M. company "down under". Before long, she was secretary to the special representative sent to Australia to inaugurate electric accounting machine practices in that country.

One day, in a downtown street, she encountered a young man whom she had met on the boat to Australia. It wasn't long before she had changed her name from Zeigler to Michaels.

But the lure and memory of Canada was strong and both Lois and her husband decided to come home. They took their time about it too, travelling home via India, Ceylon, the Suez Canal, Marseille, London and New York. The two month trip was wonderful but they were both happy to arrive on Canadian soil.

Lois is back with the Commission in the machine room. She is happy to be back with the old gang and they, in turn are happy to have her.

WHAT'S IN A NAME . . .

Everyone in the Brandon field office was very glad to see Dorothy Taylor return to work. She had been off work since early in July when she was severely injured in an automobile accident. In her absence Beryl Taylor took over her duties.

On Nov. 3, Dorothy returned to work and on Nov. 4, Beryl was taken to the hospital for an operation. The Brandon employees can't decide whether it is the name "Taylor" or the job that is unlucky. At any rate, welcome back, Dorothy; and you, Beryl, hurry and get well!

ADDRESSES QUOTA CLUB . . .

Earl Mills of Brandon was the first speaker at the new series of programmes of the Brandon Quota Club. The aim of the series is to understand better the Brandon district and its problems.

Earl spoke on rural electrification giving what he called, a report to the shareholders of their hydro. He explained the immensity of the Commission's programme, its progress and its benefits to rural customers.

SPORTS . . .

The Brandon office will not be idle this winter. They have entered teams in the Brandon Commercial Hockey League. Those who aren't playing will be out in full force rooting for the fellows as only Commissionites can root. The following staff members are on the team: Clare Nesbitt, Bud Stenson, Jack Dennis, Jack Edge, Jack McLachlin, Lyle Vickers, Ron Moffat, Ozzie Lauder, Mac Fedoroski, Walt Lead, Phil Bartlett, Tommy Tawse, Earl Mills, Ken Burton, John Martens, Dick Brickwood, Sidney Cooke, Don Cooke, Mike Wasylin, Peter Romanik and Ray White.

And Tommy Tawse has been busy winning trophies in trap shooting. During October, he won third prize in the Portage International, first in the Rock Lake

Handicap, the championship in the Western Manitoba Handicap and second in the Western Manitoba Double. That's a very impressive record, Tommy—nice going!

And in Winnipeg, Roy Wilkinson of the accounting department has been distinguishing himself in basketball circles. Roy was a member of the St. Vital Grads Basketball team which annexed the Sammy Krupp Memorial Trophy for Junior Basketball. Tradition has it that the winner of this will end up as Canadian Champion come next spring or such has been the case for the past three years.

Curling fever is abroad in the Winnipeg office as well. Play hasn't begun yet, but plans have been completed for the season's play. Ten rinks will be doing battle for top honors each Wednesday at the Valour Road Legion Curling Club. The skips are: Tommy Cossar, Cliff Stedman, Johnny Arnason, Mike Sawyer, Doug McKechnie, Archie McGillivray, Scotty Thorvaldson, Art Riehl, Tom Woodhall and Fid Holliston.

THE CASE OF THE LOST LETTER . . .

On Aug. 25, Rod McKenzie at Dominion City jotted down some information about his truck tires, put it in an envelope, sealed and stamped it and sent it to: Mr. L. Anderson, Vine St. Warehouse, M.P.C. That is the last that was heard of the letter until sometime in October.

In the meantime, it had arrived in Baltimore, Maryland. There the postal officials directed it to its return address. Thus it ended up at its destination at the warehouse late in October.

It is not known whether or not the information in the letter was of any value by that time but since the city and province were omitted entirely from the address, you have to give the postal service credit for trying.



This smiling young lady is Beverley Colleen Eastveld, granddaughter of Ellwyne and Knox Sprung. Isn't she a happy young lady? Miss Eastveld was nine months old when she posed for this photo.

SURPRISED?

Were you just a little surprised to find this issue of the Bulletin waiting for you at home? Henceforth, Bulletins will be mailed to your home each month instead of being distributed at the office. There is a reason behind all this.

By mailing the staff publication to your residence we feel that a more personal touch is achieved than if it is distributed at work. Another reason is that this will enable the good wives of the utility to see the Bulletin while it is still current. After all, we have heard tell of the odd absent-minded husband (with all good intentions) forgetting to take the Bulletin home for his wife to see.

So if you don't wish to miss an issue, be sure that your change of address is registered with the personnel department.

OUT OF THE PAST



When Colin Hamilton and his wife travelled through the States on their vacation a few months ago, they stopped off to visit Frontier Village at Las Vegas. There, relics of a bygone era are preserved—prairie schooners, buggies, fire engines, and old automobiles. They had their pictures taken, too. Above is Colin besides an old buggy that probably made grandpa's pulse gallop and below is Mrs. Hamilton beside an old prairie schooner.



25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY . . .

Nov. 30 is ordinarily an important day in the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Brown of Morris. This year, it was doubly so—they celebrated their silver wedding anniversary. Congratulations and best wishes to two fine people—Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Brown.



Below: Those in costume included Adam Bodnarus, Eileen Lobeck, Joan Ferguson and Norm Downe.

Above: The entertainment committee—Don Matheson, Kay Lindsay, Joy Cousins, Wanda Podruski, Bob McLeod, Helen Britton and Al Jeffrey.



Above: Costume winners—Don McLellan, Eunice Holliston, Garth Rustin, Audrey Harrison, Phyllis Pelland and Hector Pelland.

Right: Left to right: Bill Gupchi, Dot Lloyd, Dick Fleming, Dorothy Fleming, Helen Britton and Wally Arnold.

Brandon

Winnipeg





Mr. and Mrs. Bev. Wallace.



Cornered: Jim Finley, Dorrine Johnson, Mrs. Finley and Jim Burman.



"Hey, you", points Danny Farns.



Masquerades

This cigar-smoking lovely and her fat farmer friend are none other than Clare Nesbitt and Jean Atchison.

Below is pirate Bob Hurst with Harlequin, Beryl Taylor.



A rustic pair—Gerry Hodgson and Keith Hurst.



The gang — Everyone entered into the spirit of the masquerade and costumes were plentiful and varied.



Mrs. Wally Coburn laughs uproariously at Bev Wallace's antics.

... SAFETY IS ... FREEDOM FROM DANGER

Facts to remember during this Xmas season of gladness.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH came to Power Commission employees this year.

LEFT TO MOURN are widows and children.

FOUR EMPLOYEES by the grace of God survived electrical accidents.

YOU will be here to celebrate Xmas in 1953 if you follow guidance rules set up for **YOUR SAFETY**.



Margaret Munro discusses small appliances with three of the girls at the homemaking school.

the Department of Agriculture, was conducted from Oct. 27 - Nov. 7 and attended by 58 young men from every corner of the province.

On Nov. 10 and continuing for 4 months, a diploma course in agriculture and homemaking began and in attendance were 33 young men and 16 girls. The rural electrification course was repeated during the first two weeks of this course for the boys. In addition, the girls received instruction by Margaret Munro on the buying points, care and use of electrical appliances such as washers, irons, ironers, refrigerators, food mixers, ranges, vacuum cleaners, floor polishers, toasters and other small equipment.

The men's course began with an introduction on power resources and development by W. Coburn, Brandon Manager. Then the fellows settled down to study electricity in earnest. The course included: the fundamentals of electricity; service interruptions; farm yard distribution; electrical loads; air conditioning; refrigeration; oil burners; stokers; water pressure systems; water softeners; electric milking equipment; farm lighting; M.P.C. policy; water and soil heating; grain elevators, crushers, and cleaners; oat rollers; farm wiring; appliance repairs; and care and maintenance of electrical equipment.

Highlights of the course were a conducted tour through all departments of the Brandon plant and a wind-up banquet which was attended by the students, instructors, and representatives of the City of Brandon, Chamber of Commerce, Canadian General Electric, the Industrial Board, Extension Service and the Power Commission.

Danny Fearns arranged and supervised the course and was assisted by R. Jeske, A. Mills, G. Miller, T. Tawse, R. Carruthers, R. Dunn, W. Kearns, G. Milliken, C. Nesbitt, E. Render, H. Litster, and R. Lumb of the Manitoba Power Commission. Special thanks for their efforts is due T. Klinkhammer of the Livestock Branch; G. McLeod of the Department of Health; G. Holmes, H. Lapp and E. Lange of the Extension Service; A. Short of Canadian General Electric; J. Yates of Yates Plumbing and Heating; D. Carmichael of Empire Brass; H. E. Wood of the OshKosh Company; D. Bear of Bear and Skeoch; C. Noonan and W. Gregor of Lawson Brothers; and J. Rymak of Melco Electric.

Upon completion of the course, both students and instructors felt that a great deal had been accomplished. The course will be beneficial in enabling the men to understand electricity better and to put it to use wisely and profitably on their farm when they return home.

Bob Jeske explains the operation of a cutout at the school.



Mr. Short of Canadian General Electric lectured the students on refrigeration.

R.E. Course Popular

A two week course devoted to the study of rural electrification was recently completed at the Agricultural and Homemaking School in Brandon. The course, sponsored jointly by the Manitoba Power Commission and the Extension Service of

the Department of Agriculture, was conducted from Oct. 27 - Nov. 7 and attended by 58 young men from every corner of the province.

On Nov. 10 and continuing for 4 months, a diploma course in agriculture and homemaking began and in attendance were 33 young men and 16 girls. The rural electrification course was repeated during the first two weeks of this course for the boys. In addition, the girls received instruction by Margaret Munro on the buying points, care and use of electrical appliances such as washers, irons, ironers, refrigerators, food mixers, ranges, vacuum cleaners, floor polishers, toasters and other small equipment.

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Swan River is a thriving town in the fertile Swan River Valley.

THE SWAN RIVER VALLEY

One of the highlights of the 1952 construction season was reached on November 2. On that day all customers formerly supplied by the National Utilities Corporation were taken over by the Manitoba Power Commission. The towns of Swan River, Bowsman, Minitonas, Kenville, Durban and Benito which were supplied with power by National Utilities for the past 26 years, were added to the ever-growing Hydro family.

Franchise granted in 1926

In 1926, a franchise was granted to the Northern Engineering and Development Company by the town of Swan River. Later this was transferred to an operating company known as the Swan River Power Company who constructed a plant and distribution system in the town of Swan River with a generating capacity of 150 h.p. The first customers numbered 126. Later, in 1930, the villages of Benito, Durban, Kenville, Minitonas and Bowsman were added to the system and the name of the company changed to The National Utilities Corporation Ltd.

One hundred and forty customers in the above towns were added to the system and the increase in customers necessitated plant extensions from time to time. Farmers were not forgotten either. Persons living a reasonable distance from transmission lines were given service. By 1952, the company supplied electricity to some 1,480 customers in the valley and the plant and generating facilities had been increased from the original 150 h.p. to 1,250 h.p. and even this increase was insufficient to meet the expanding needs of residents in the valley. This was a pioneer enterprise and a very successful one. It did much to further development in the Swan River Valley.

1952 Programme

In preparation for the day when the Commission would take over the lines in the valley, it localized large numbers of men there. At the height of the construction some 200 men were working on the Commission's million dollar project to serve the customers in this northern and fertile section of the province.

Continuing good weather this fall enabled crews to speed ahead with construction. A 66,000 volt transmission line was constructed from Dauphin. The existing 33,000 volt line between Dauphin and Sifton was converted to 66,000 volts and the 6,900 volt line between Sifton and Pine River was changed to 66,000 volts. The remainder of the line between Pine River and Swan River was newly constructed. The main obstacle in the building of this line was the great amount of brush clearing that was required. Bulldozers were brought into play and short work was made of the brush.

Meanwhile, a crew was busy building a new substation where the voltage would be stepped down to 6,900 volts. Other crews were rehabilitating existing town distribution systems. Still others were engaged in extending new transmission lines to serve customers in the surrounding farm areas. Some 490 farm customers are expected to have their first taste of electrical living before Christmas this year—a timely and welcome Christmas present.

1953 Programme

An equally energetic programme is scheduled for 1953. Over 630 new farms will be added to the system and an additional 66,000 volt line will be constructed from Roblin. This line will serve as an alternative circuit in the eventuality that service is interrupted on the original line. To ensure continuity of service, an oil circuit breaker is to be installed at Swan River to provide an alternative tie with the new line when completed. Already poling operations on the Roblin line have begun although it will not be completed until sometime in 1953.

It is interesting to note that the bulk of the poles used in the new farm areas in the north were taken out of the Duck Mountain Forest Reserve and treated at a wood preserving plant at Pine River.

THE NEW SUPERVISOR—L. MADILL



The supervisor of the newly-formed district of Swan River is Laurence Madill. Laurence and his wife, Elizabeth with their one year old son, Donald, have taken up residence at Swan River after a four year stay at Shoal Lake.

Laurence's home town is Russell. He attended school there and after graduation worked as a theatre projectionist. In 1944, he started on his career with the Manitoba Power Commission when he reported for work to George Chamberlain whose crew was then rebuilding sections of the Neepawa distribution system. Laurence was spared the initial back-breaking work of digging holes that is usually assigned a new man for he was sent climbing from the very first. He assures us, however, that he has since made up for this omission.

In 1947, he was sent to relieve at Neepawa. Lloyd Playfair had been transferred to the Winnipeg office and Laurence was to act as Supervisor until a new appointment had been made. He stayed there 11 months before being assigned to the district of Shoal Lake where he remained until he moved to Swan River.

While at Shoal Lake, he was chaplain of the Chamber of Commerce. Elizabeth was a member of the Rebecca Lodge and secretary of the Red Cross. Always active supporters of community projects, the Madills undoubtedly will fit right into activities in Swan River.

After hours, Laurence spends his time putting about his workshop. Some very professional-like bookcases and lamps have made their appearance as a result of this putting. Much to her hubby's delight, Elizabeth lists her pet hobby as cooking.

The best wishes of the entire staff are extended to the Madills in their new location. Swan River is a progressive town and we wager that before long, the Madills are as fiercely proud of the Swan River Valley as are the residents.



Elizabeth Madill with son, Donald.



Fifth Annual Dinner and Dance

The Manitoba Power Commission Employees' fifth annual dinner and dance has come and gone. It was held in the Blue Room of the Marlborough Hotel on Saturday, Nov. 29. It was well attended—almost 300 persons had themselves a grand, gay time (see pictures). The decision to hold the affair on a Saturday night rather than the usual Friday night was a welcome innovation.

Charlie Hallwood was on hand as in past years to ask the blessing. Tom McEwen was master of ceremonies and after dinner introduced the guests at the head table. Mr. L. B. Mackay, Assistant General Manager, and F. Trudeau, President of the Employees' Association, both addressed the guests. Mr. Fallis, who was in Toronto and unable to attend wired his

apologies and wishes for a successful time.

Bill Walker of radio station C.K.R.C. provided the entertainment and kept everyone in stitches with his impersonations and dialect jokes. To wind up the evening, Charlie Cruickshanks and his band were in attendance to supply the music for every kind of dance from a minuet to a conga.

The entertainment committee outdid themselves this year. The room was decorated with streamers, balloons, murals and flowers. All the ladies received corsages on their arrival. For a swell job well done, take a bow, Mickey Russell, Wanda Podruski, Joy Cousins, Kay Lindsay, Sylvia Makahonuik, Helen Britton, Al Stuart, Bob McLeod and Al Jeffrey.



Sitting one out are:
Peter Hrycik, Anna Johansson, Hugh Rafferty, Doris Grinney, George Grinney, Louise Rafferty, Peggy Morris and Sid Morris.

Here's a happy table: Mr. and Mrs. Dick Courage, Violet Helwet, Lawrence Hubert, Al English, Florence Black, Joan Chalmers, Ernie Wilk, Adele Keilback, Al Ridley, Alex Hamilton, and Kay O'Driscoll. That's Brian Anderson and Dick Fleming in the background.





There is a keen attraction for both youngsters and adults in

RAILROADS IN MINIATURE

Model railroading has captured the hearts of young and old alike. Electricity has been put to many uses but perhaps none has been found that is as interesting as its use in model railroading. Through a series of electrical buttons and switches, you can be head engineer of a complete railroad empire, making your trains stop or go, reverse or just pull into a siding to unload its freight. At the push of a button, a puffing steam engine or a sleek diesel can be uncoupled from a fast freight and coupled to a pullman—all because of the electric cord that is plugged into a wall outlet.

Toy electric trains were born back in 1900 when Joshua Lionel Cowan, an incurable gadgeteer, invented a dry cell battery and motor and, in the process of finding its potential uses, made a miniature railroad car. Attaching the battery and motor, he powered the car around a circle of brass tracks and the first toy electric train came into being. His first model was sold as a display piece to a restaurant for \$4.00.

Within a year, he was in the toy train business and with the development of the transformer in 1913 and later in the 1920's with the production of remote control for controlling the locomotive's actions, model trains came into their own. The company he founded, The Lionel Corporation, is today the world's largest manufacturer of toy electric trains.

So if you are trying to decide what to get Junior for Christmas that will delight the both of you, how about an electric train? They are completely authentic in every detail. Locomotives and diesels are faithful reproductions of the originals used on railroads on this continent. Engines puff real smoke and the whistles and even the couplings are just like the real McCoy. There are boxcars, oil tankers, observation coaches and even the new "vista-dome" cars that light up and have tiny people peering through the windows. In case Junior or Dad gets his switches mixed, there is a heavy duty crane car that has a boom and tackle powerful enough to clear the debris from the tracks.

This passion for reality has been extended to the design of mechanical accessories. There is a little switch tower with a switchman who scurries into the tower when a train approaches, throws the switch and notifies a watchman who zips down a flight of stairs with a small mail pouch. A barrel loader placed beside a spur track has a workman topple barrels from a platform onto a conveyor which moves them up to a loading platform and deposits them, via a chute, into a waiting railroad car. Then there are two baggage men who drive their baggage cars busily in and out of the illuminated freight station. To make the railroad completely realistic, there are signal bridges, tunnels, stock loading platforms and even outdoor signboards.

Whether the success of this attempt to reproduce real railroading atmosphere in miniature is responsible for the toy train hobbyist or vice versa, even the inventor doesn't know. But one thing is certain, the growing number of hobbyists testifies to the fun which can be had from building, inventing and creating your own railroad empire. And as long as Dad insists on playing with Junior's Christmas toys, model railroading seems likely to flourish.

Hydro Homemakers

by MARGARET MUNRO
Home Economist



Season's greetings! The busiest days of the year, no doubt, are those between now and Christmas. With sewing or knitting projects to be completed, last-minute gifts to be bought and a few extra cards to be purchased, it helps to have the food situation under control early. Chances are your fruit cake, aging for weeks in a moist, dark place, and shortbread are becoming mellower by the day.

With fruit cake and shortbread on hand, all that is needed to prepare a quick lunch for friends who drop in is a few cookies, a nut loaf and a dish or two of candy.

Here is Muriel Lyon's recipe for Nut and Cherry Drops.

NUT AND CHERRY DROPS

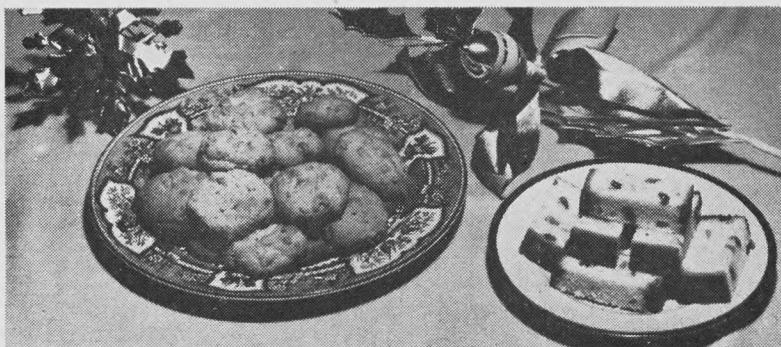
$\frac{3}{4}$ cup shortening
1 cup brown sugar
1 egg
2 tablespoons milk
2 cups once-sifted flour

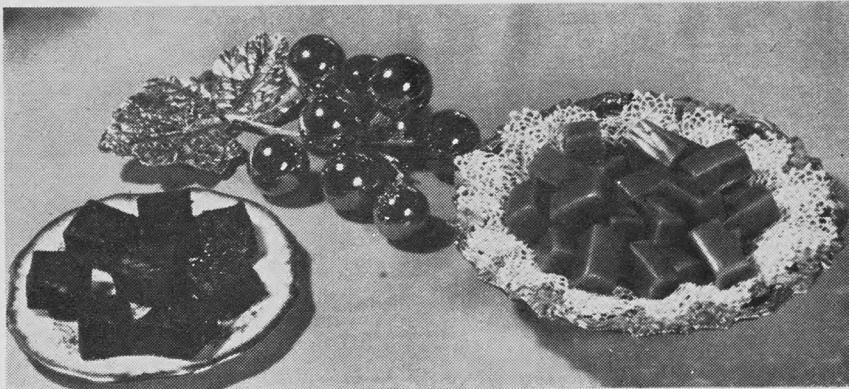
$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped nuts
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped cherries
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup coconut

Cream shortening and sugar. Beat in egg and milk. Sift flour, baking soda and salt together into butter mixture. Fold in nuts, cherries and coconut. Drop by teaspoons on greased cooky sheet. Bake in 375° oven for 15 minutes. Yield: 5 dozen.

Muriel's recipe for German New Year Cake can be whipped up dur-

NUT AND CHERRY DROPS — GERMAN NEW YEAR CAKE.





CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES AND ENGLISH TOFFEE

ing the week after Christmas, in time for New Year's Day. Its texture is something like that of Pound Cake. "If it appears 'sad', don't worry", Muriel advises, ". . . it is a characteristic of this cake."

GERMAN NEW YEAR CAKE

$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. butter	$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. citron peel, cut in thin strips
2 cups fruit sugar	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups flour
5 eggs	1 teaspoon lemon flavoring
$\frac{1}{4}$ lb. bleached sultana raisins	

Cream butter and fruit sugar. Add well-beaten eggs. Add flour and fruit and beat well. Lastly add lemon flavoring. Bake in 10" x 5" x 3" pan in 350° oven for one hour.

It's nice to have candy in the house around Christmas, and here are two recipes I think you'll like. Agnes Riehl, Art Riehl's wife, sent along the first one which she calls Chocolate Truffles. The Truffles are like super-velvety fudge and they're made in a matter of minutes.

CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES

$\frac{1}{4}$ cups semi-sweet chocolate pieces (approx. 1-7oz. package chips)	1 teaspoon vanilla or $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons rum flavoring
$\frac{1}{2}$ cup sweetened condensed milk	$\frac{1}{4}$ cup ground Brazil nuts (optional)
Dash of salt	

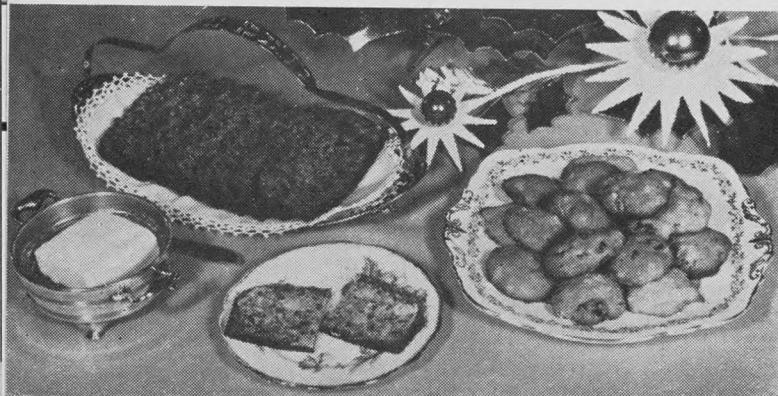
Melt chocolate in double boiler. Remove from heat. Add salt and condensed milk. Beat until smooth and blended. Stir in flavoring and, if you are using them, the nuts. Pour into buttered 7" x 3" x 2" loaf pan. Refrigerate 24 hours to mellow. Cut in $\frac{3}{4}$ " x $\frac{1}{2}$ " pieces. Store in tightly covered metal box. Makes about 1 pound.

The second candy recipe, English Toffee, was given to Muriel Lyon by her dad. He told her that it really needs watching as it will burn easily—but it's worth it! Half the recipe plus a batch of Chocolate Truffles can be made from one tin of condensed milk.

ENGLISH TOFFEE

$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. butter	1 can Borden's sweetened condensed milk
1 cup corn syrup	
1 lb. brown sugar	

Boil together on medium heat, stirring constantly, until hard ball stage is reached. Pour into 2-8" greased pans. Can be cut into desired shape when firm.



DATE AND NUT BREAD AND PINEAPPLE RAISIN DROPS.

New directions with regard to stuffing a turkey have been developed since last Christmas. You should stuff the bird immediately before roasting, rather than the day before, to make certain no food-poisoning bacteria get a chance to grow. It's a little hard on you on Christmas Day, I'll admit!

To speed things along, a dry stuffing can be prepared safely beforehand and refrigerated. For a moist stuffing the measured liquid ingredients should be refrigerated and combined with the dry ones immediately before stuffing.

Here are two of Margaret Carruthers' favorite recipes, Date and Nut Bread and Pineapple Raisin Drops.

DATE AND NUT BREAD

1 cup chopped dates
1 cup boiling water
1 teaspoon baking soda
2 cups flour

2 teaspoons baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
2/3 cup sugar
1 egg
1 cup nuts

Pour boiling water over dates and baking soda and let stand until cold. Mix other ingredients together well and pour date mixture over all. Pat into an 8" x 5" x 3" loaf pan and bake in a 350° oven for 20 minutes.

These cookies, as the name suggests, contain pineapple. It gives them a different flavor which is very nice.

PINEAPPLE RAISIN DROPS

1/2 cup shortening
1 cup brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1 egg, beaten
1 cup seedless raisins

1/2 cup crushed pineapple
2 cups sifted flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt

Cream shortening and sugar. Add vanilla, egg, raisins and pineapple. Sift flour, baking powder, soda and salt together. Stir into creamed mixture. Drop from a greased spoon to a greased cooky sheet and place about 1 1/2 inches apart. Bake at 375° for 10 to 15 minutes. Makes 35 or 40 cookies.

Those are all the recipes for now. I hope you'll find time to try one or two of them before Christmas.

The Bulletin staff would like to thank you for your co-operation during the year, and last but not least, wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and everything of the best in the year ahead!

